

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF AUGUST 28, 2006

The regular meeting of the Los Angeles County Commission for Women was held on Monday, August 28, 2006 in Room 372, Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, California.

President Lesser called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m., with no quorum present.

The following Commissioners were present for roll call:

President Lesser
Commissioner Freeman
Commissioner Jernigan
Commissioner Rodriguez
Commissioner Tanberg
Commissioner ZeBrack

(Treasurer Creary joined the meeting at 10:03 a.m.)

Introduction of the audience followed. President Lesser introduce new staff member Rhonda Rangel and asked her to give the Commission a brief overview of her background.

(Vice President Duba joined the meeting at 10:05 a.m. constituting a quorum)

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Lesser reported that she has been working with staff on the retreat planning and thanked the Commissioners for their ideas and concerns. Also, she and Vice President Duba, Treasurer Creary, Commissioners Freeman, Rodriguez and Tanberg were in attendance at the Board of Supervisors August 22nd meeting to accept a scroll proclaiming August 26th as *Women's Equality Day*. **President Lesser and Commissioner Jernigan expressed their gratitude to the Board for recognizing the work of women to have an opportunity to vote.** President Lesser asked staff to make a copy of the scroll for Commissioners.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF JULY 10, 2006

On motion of Commissioner Rodriguez, seconded by Vice President Duba, and unanimously carried, the minutes of August 14, 2006 were approved, with the following addition: Page 4, 4th paragraph, 4th sentence, *Treasurer Creary also noted that Lupe Ontiveros, Actor/Activist was the Keynoter (previously a Social Worker that she worked with at the Regional Center for the Developmentally Disabled).*

STAFF REPORT

Staff reported the following:

Staff reviewed the teleconferencing requirements in accordance with the Brown Act. President Lesser, directed staff to send a copy of the teleconferencing section of the

Brown Act to Commissioners not in attendance. She also encouraged all Commissioners to attend the Brown Act Training on September 21, 2006 at 10:00 am in Room 374.

PRESENTATION ON TOUCH SCREEN VOTING AND THE UPCOMING ELECTION

Nelson Fernandez, Community Outreach Coordinator and Linda Harris, Community Outreach Representative, Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk, gave a demonstration of the three ways registered voters can vote in the upcoming November 7, 2006 election.

Mr. Fernandez recited the registrar-recorders slogan "3 Choices No Excuses" as he spoke on the Absentee, Touch Screen, and Ink-A-Vote methods of voting. As a voter you can vote by using the absentee ballot, Touch Screen voting is offered at 17 locations (see attached) from October 25 through November 3, 2006, and Ink-a-Vote on the day of the election at your polling location.

The Touch Screen Voting machine is new and improved. It is ADA accessible, offering seven languages, and has a automated review option to let the voter know if any section was skipped before casting their vote. Also there is a new item, the Ink-a-Vote Plus which is a ballot reader. This machine gives the voter an opportunity to review their ballot before casting their vote. The Ink-a-Vote Plus will be available at 5000 locations one at each neighborhood voting location on Election Day.

Mr. Fernandez noted that the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk is constantly working to make the election process simple and convenient for the voter. To learn more about these voting methods please visit www.LAVOTE.NET.

Following discussion, President Lesser encouraged all to participate in a the voter process as a poll worker. She thanked Mr. Fernandez and Ms. Harris for their informative presentation.

DISCUSSION TO COLLABORATE WITH GLENDALE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN IN A DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PANEL PRESENTATION

Following discussion this item was tabled to the next meeting.

DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL TO CANCEL THE COMMISSION'S SEPTEMBER 11, 2006 MEETING

On motion of Commissioner Jernigan, seconded by Treasurer Creary, with President Lesser opposing, and dully carried, the Commission to approved to cancel the Commission's September 11, 2006 meeting.

UPDATE ON THE COMMISSION'S ANNUAL RETREAT

President Lesser reported that the September 25, 2006 Commission meeting and Retreat will be held at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels. The Retreat Planning committee will meet after the meeting to finalize the agenda.

UPDATE ON THE 5K RUN/WALK

Vice President Duba reported the following:

- The next committee meeting will be on September 11, 2006 at 10:00 a.m. in Room 372.
- Reviewed Commissioners assignments for the 5K event
- The race t-shirt was designed by Ashley Datcher, Fifth District, 2005 Scholarship Awardee.
- Dr. Eloisa Gonzalez is confirmed to lead the aerobic warm-up.
- Student Run LA has pre-registered 30 6th – 8th grade students for the run.
- Commissioner Becerra-Jones recruited 30 plus students, parents and facility from the Lennox School District for the run.
- Nonie Higgins donated a framed oil painting for the drawing grand prize

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Media Committee: Commissioner Freeman gave staff a revised DVD "A Model for Others" to be shown at the Commission's Retreat. She reported that the Committee will create a speaker's bureau and asked Commissioners to e-mail their area of expertise to her before the Commission retreat on September 25, 2006.

Older Women's Issues Committee: No report given.

Health Committee: Commissioner Tanberg agreed to Chair the Health Committee.

Domestic Violence Committee: No report given.

Finance Committee: Treasurer Creary reported that the final draft of the financial documents will be e-mailed by September 1, 2006.

Legislative Committee: Commissioner Jernigan reported that the minimum wage bill agreed upon by the Governor and Legislative body will raise minimum wage to \$8.00 per hour by January 1, 2008. The legislative committee will meet later in the year to review all passed legislation.

(Commissioner Becerra-Jones joined the meeting at 11:37 a.m.)

PUBLIC COMMENT: Genevieve Clavreul reported that Daniel Freeman Hospital's Emergency Room is the 10th to close in Los Angeles County. She also noted the rise in HIV/AIDS in women in the African American Community. The healthcare in Los Angeles County is a critical problem.

(Commissioner Yolanda Becerra-Jones joined the meeting at 11:45 a.m.)

COMMUNITY OUTREACH/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner ZeBrack while in Colorado visited the home of Molly Brown a women's rights activist.

Commissioner Jernigan attended a reception and had an opportunity to speak with members of the Sheriff's Department on the early release of inmates.

Commissioner Creary attended the following:

- LA City Council Presentation by Councilmember Herb Wesson to the Special Needs Network for Autistic Children on August 18, 2006 at the LA City Hall Chambers. Studies show that autism cases in California increased from 5,000 in 1993 to 26,000 cases today.
- On August 18, 2006, she attended the Real Medicine Foundation Fundraiser at the Lladro Gallery in Beverly Hills.
- Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors presentation to the Commission on August 22, 2006 to proclaim August 26, 2006 as Women's Equality Day throughout Los Angeles.
- Central Neighborhood Health Foundation Dinner fundraiser in Simi Valley on August 26, 2006.

Commissioner Freeman attended the Birthday Celebration for Mayor Antonovich in Lancaster on August 8, 2006. Also on August 20, 2006 she met Fluke Fluker co-founder of the *Village* a program created three years ago to assist African-American students in improving their academic performance. In 2003, 36% of African-American student at Cleveland High School passed the math portion of the California Exit Examination. The figure rose by 81% in 2006.

MATTERS NOT POSTED ON THE AGENDA (to be presented and placed on a future agenda):

President Lesser requested approval of retreat cost and tickets and ad for the Los Angeles County Commission on Disabilities Access Awards Luncheon to be placed on the next agenda. Commissioner Jernigan requested staff schedule a speaker to give statistics on the early release of inmates and rehabilitation and batterers treatment programs available before release.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

COMMISSIONERS

Charlotte Lesser, President
Reiko Duba, Vice President
Ruth Creary, Ph.D., Treasurer
Yolanda Becerra-Jones
Peggy J. Freeman
Wadie Gravely
Ruth Jernigan
Olivia Rodriguez
Elise ZeBrack

EXCUSED

Karin Davalos
Janet Mummey, Esq
Michele Pinedo
Bobbi Jean Tanberg

COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES

Sandra Barbee, Rhonda Rangel, Twila P. Kerr and Nyla Jefferson, Executive Office
Gwendolyn Evans, OAAC

GUESTS

Genevieve Clavreul
Pat Wilson